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Application No: GB 0307821.9
Claims searched: 1-30

Examiner: Mark Edwards
Date of search: 29 October 2003

Patents Act 1977 : Search Report under Section 17

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
X	X=1-2, 5, 11-12, 15 & 21-22, 25	US 6304962 B1 (NAIR) Columns 4 (lines 1-55), 5 (lines 14-34) & 6 (lines 15-21)
A		US 6170998 B1 (YAMAMOTO)
A		US 5768576 A (HOYT)

Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC^v:

G4A

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC⁷:

G06F

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report:

WPI, PAJ, EPODOC, TDB and INSPEC